

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 4-5 and 7-8 have been amended and claims 9-20 have been added as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): An electric toothbrush in which brushing is enabled by back-and-forth linear movement of a tufted portion, wherein the product of the distance (mm) of movement of the tufted portion and the frequency (times) of back-and-forth motion per minute is set in the range of 3000-9000.

Claim 2 (original): The electric toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein the product of the distance (mm) of movement of the tufted portion and the frequency (times) of back-and-forth motion per minute is set in the range of 4500-7500.

Claim 3 (original): An electric toothbrush in which brushing is enabled by back-and-forth linear movement of a tufted portion, wherein the distance, x (mm), of movement of the tufted portion and the frequency, y (times), of back-and-forth motion per minute are set in a range satisfying the following formula.

$$y = ax + b,$$

Where $a = -3000, 10,000 \leq b \leq 12500, x > 0$.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The electric toothbrush according to ~~any claim of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the distance of movement of the tufted portion is set at 0.3-0.7 mm.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The electric toothbrush according to ~~any claim of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein the frequency of back-and-forth motion of the tufted portion is set at 8000 to 13000 per minute.

Claim 6 (original): An electric toothbrush in which brushing is enabled by back-and-forth linear movement of a tufted portion, wherein the distance of movement of the tufted portion is set at 0.3-0.7 mm and the frequency of back-and-forth motion of said tufted portion is set at 8000 to 13000 per minute.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The electric toothbrush according to ~~any claim of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein filaments in which tip portions of at least 30% or more of all tufted filaments are split into a plurality of portions are used.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The electric toothbrush according to ~~any claim of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein a DC electric motor is used as means for moving said tufted portion.

Claim 9 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein the distance of movement of the tufted portion is set at 0.3-0.7 mm.

Claim 10 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 3, wherein the distance of movement of the tufted portion is set at 0.3-0.7 mm.

Claim 11 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein the frequency of back-and-forth motion of the tufted portion is set at 8000 to 13000 per minute.

Claim 12 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 3, wherein the frequency of back-and-forth motion of the tufted portion is set at 8000 to 13000 per minute.

Claim 13 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 4, wherein the frequency of back-and-forth motion of the tufted portion is set at 8000 to 13000 per minute.

Claim 14 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein filaments in which tip portions of at least 30% or more of all tufted filaments are split into a plurality of portions are used.

Claim 15 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 3, wherein filaments in which tip portions of at least 30% or more of all tufted filaments are split into a plurality of portions are used.

Claim 16 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 4, wherein filaments in which tip portions of at least 30% or more of all tufted filaments are split into a plurality of portions are used.

Claim 17 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 5, wherein filaments in which tip portions of at least 30% or more of all tufted filaments are split into a plurality of portions are used.

Claim 18 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 6, wherein filaments in which tip portions of at least 30% or more of all tufted filaments are split into a plurality of portions are used.

Claim 19 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 2, wherein a DC electric motor is used as means for moving said tufted portion.

Claim 20 (new): The electric toothbrush according to claim 3, wherein a DC electric motor is used as means for moving said tufted portion.